

Space Station passes five-year milestone



KSC Society of Women Engineers seeks award nominees

▲ Message from the Administrator: A New Milestone in Space [excerpts]. “On Nov. 20, five years will have passed since NASA launched the first element of the International Space Station. Last Sunday, our Expedition 8 crew members, astronaut Michael Foale and cosmonaut Alexander Kaleri, marked the third year of continuous human occupancy onboard this football field-sized facility, having just replaced Expedition 7 crew members Ed Lu and Yuri Malenchenko following their successful 6- month mission. These tremendous accomplishments are due to the hard work and dedication of our entire International Partner team.

“These milestones remind us how fundamentally important it is to ensure continued safe Space Station operations. I encourage all NASA employees to remain vigilant when it comes to mission safety for the Station, and in all aspects of our operations.

“With continued safe operations, we can count on our Expedition Crews building on the impressive scientific research agenda for the facility. Thus far, our crews have conducted experiments spanning across such scientific disciplines as human physiology, genetics, plant biology, earth observations, physics and cell biology.

“From these experiments, scientists are learning better methods of drug testing, developing models that predict or explain the progress of disease; investigating how to use microbes to make antibiotics, and determining how to improve manufacturing processes. In short, this research is helping to better all of our lives.”

▲ Nominations for the Space Coast Women Engineer of the Year award: The Space Coast Section of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) will present the annual Space Coast Women Engineer of the Year awards on Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2004, at the Rockledge Country Club. Nominations for these prestigious awards are being

solicited from Space Coast engineering companies, government agencies and technical organizations. The Nov. 18 issue of KSC Daily News lists the criteria for the *Space Coast Woman Engineer Technical Achievement Award*, *Space Coast Outstanding Woman Engineer Award* and *Space Coast Distinguished New Woman Engineer*. Information relative to submission of nominees and award applications is available on-line at www.swe-sc.org. All required information must be submitted by Jan. 14, 2004. Any questions about the application process should be referred to Patricia Ruddell at 321-861-0109, or e-mail patricia.a.ruddell@boeing.com

◆ **Influenza immunizations** – You can be protected from the most likely causes of epidemic flu by being vaccinated. No appointment is necessary. You can get your shot at one of these sites:

- Occupational Health Facility (KSC Industrial Area), weekdays from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Launch Area Clinic (KSC LC-39 Area, MFF Facility) weekdays from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

◆ **Education Opportunity – Webster University’s** Spring registration will open Nov. 24. Spring 1 classes begin Jan. 3 and continue through March 5. The University’s courses are conducted weeknights or Saturdays at the Merritt Island, Palm Bay and Patrick Air Force Base campuses. Current students may register by telephone, fax, e-mail, or on-line through the Webster University web site at www.webster.edu/spacecoast/, or by visiting the campuses. Applications for new students are also being accepted at this time for a variety of programs. New students are advised to call 321-449-4500 to schedule an appointment with an academic advisor.

◆ **Did You Know?** There will only be one issue of *KSC Countdown* next week due to the Thanksgiving holiday.